



**Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

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Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor
David B. Richards, Parish Musician
Karen Rouleau, Administrative Assistant



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

During the Prayers of Intercession, you are invited to add your own prayer(s) either in speech or in silence. You may wish to use this insert to write down your prayer(s) which you may then offer aloud during that time. If you wish to have your prayers added to the Prayer of the Church during the coming weeks, please remove and place this card in the offering plate.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 14th, 2024 ✚ 10:15 a.m.

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, PAGES 147-155

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP FOR EPIPHANY

by David Inglis

God whispers to each of us: you are my beloved, created in love for love.

My spirit answers, Here I am, Lord. Speak to me anew.

God breathes on us the Holy Spirit, knitting many members into one body,
the body of Christ.

Together we answer, Here we are Lord. Come, Holy Spirit.

God has yet more vision for the people. Who will work for God
to extend God's kingdom into our hurting world?

Here we are Lord. Empower us for your work.

God calls the small, and helps them do great things.

God calls the weak, and reveals their hidden gifts.

God calls the rejected, and opens their eyes to their worth.

Here we are Lord, humble and waiting.

Then let us gather, old and young, small and great,
to dream God's dreams, receive God's power, and do God's deeds.

Here we are Lord. Shine the light of your love on us. Kindle your Spirit within us.

**Work your redeeming will in us, that all the world may be one
through the power of your love. Amen**

*ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of light and peace, we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reunite us with one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of Peace, our Savior and Lord Jesus. Amen

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart. Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come. **Amen**

*GATHERING HYMN

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

ELW 815

*GREETING

The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 3:1-10

At a time when visions are rare and unexpected, the Lord comes to Samuel and calls him to speak the divine word. Though just a boy, Samuel responds to God obediently, as Eli the priest has taught him to respond. This marks the beginning of Samuel's prophetic ministry.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayed responsively by leader and congregation.

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

**You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.**

You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, you know it completely.**

You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.

**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**

How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

**I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Paul helps the Corinthians understand that God has claimed the entirety of their lives through the death of Christ. Hence Christian relationships and conduct, including areas of human sexuality, are to reflect the reality that we belong to Christ and that the Holy Spirit lives within us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In John's gospel, Jesus' ministry begins with the call of disciples, who then bring others to Jesus. Philip's friend Nathanael moves from skepticism to faith when he accepts the invitation to "Come and see."

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*CREED

God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

For the body of Christ gathered throughout the world and for all servants of the gospel, that following Jesus, the church lives out its calling every day, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For the well-being of creation, for plants and animals, and for all that God has marvelously made, that we serve as wise stewards of the earth, our home, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For police officers and firefighters, for attorneys and paralegals, for peacekeepers and military personnel, and for the leaders of governments, that they provide protection to all people, especially the most vulnerable, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For those lacking food or shelter, for those who are sick or grieving, and for those who are imprisoned or homebound, especially... that God console all who suffer, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

For our neighborhood, for visitors joining us, and for those absent from our assembly, that all who seek to know God are nourished by word and sacrament, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Here other intercessions may be offered in speech or silence.

In thanksgiving for the saints who have gone before us, especially... that their lives give us a vision of the gospel in action, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the One who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

*PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

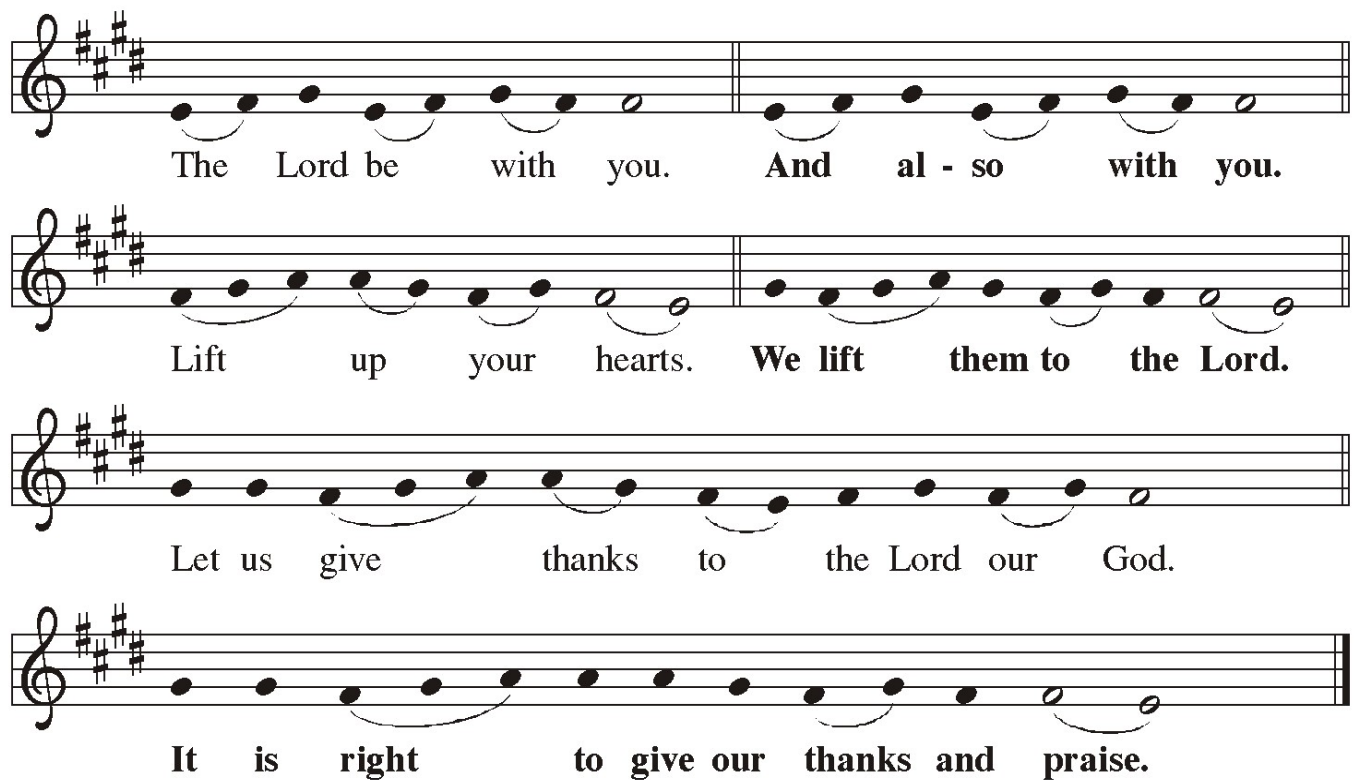
OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Follow Me to Jordan

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

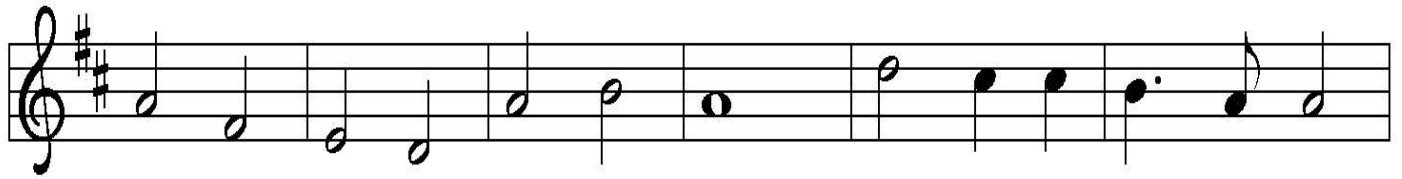
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

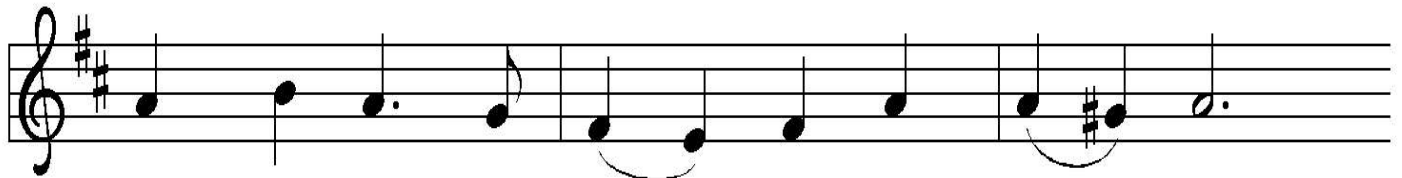
*PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son, and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

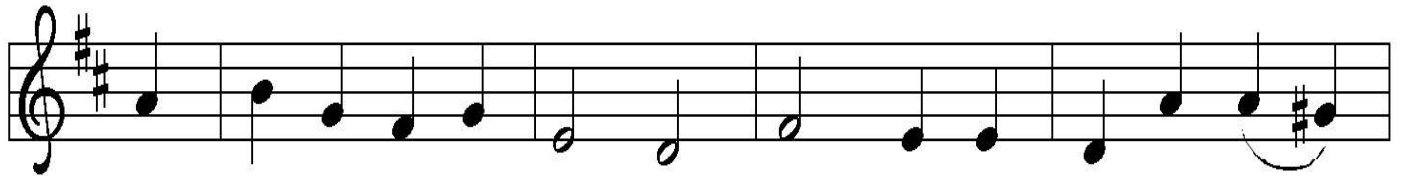
*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



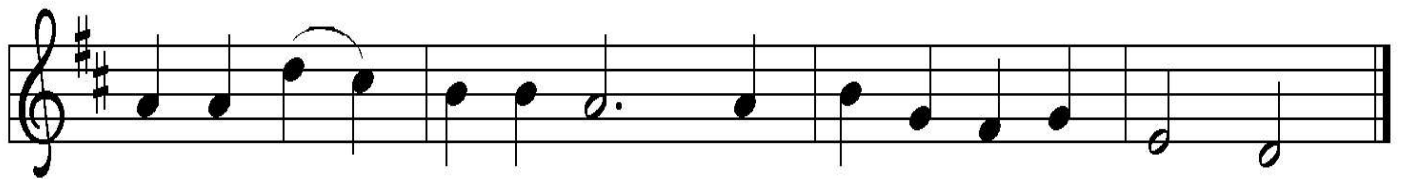
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.

DISTRIBUTION

Anthem

Johnson-Hassell

*BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BENEDICTION

The God of glory dwell in you richly,
name you beloved,
and shine brightly on your path;
and the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen**

*SENDING HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised

ELW 810

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

PREACHING AND PRESIDING MINISTER

Dennis Lauritsen, pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Vicki Michaels

MUSIC MINISTER

David Richards

SERVICE LEADER

Kristine Boike

LECTOR

Carrie Watkiss

GREETER

Carrie Watkiss

LIVE STREAM

Paul Watkiss

USHER

George Valek

ALTAR CARE AND SACRISTAN

Fred Kuzel

IN THE PRAYERS

Members of the Congregation: Anne Gavac, Helen Gaydusek, Karole Gaydusek, Elaine Haase, Bettye Harden, Luddy Kovalsky, Mildred Mendel, Lois Mika, George Pagurko, Mildred Riban, Mary Sasuta and Mary Sordel. **Friends and Relatives of the Congregation:** Betty Bartel, Wally Bisping, Dan and Mary Costello, Eric Dennison, Marilyn Dunne, Tom Duran, Barbara Dykes, Denise Fricano, Walid Jabbar, Ron Kelly, Nicole Kisiel, Rev. James Kuemmerle, Lenyce Lawrenson, Delores Linden, Darlene Loughlin, Mary Frances Mason, Michele Mason, Julie Mroz, Donald Neal, Pat Pileggi, Gail Purcell, Mary Lee Rosland, Sandy Rossella, Stevie Singer, Peter Spilotro, Kathy Stenson, Gertrude Tarbox and Janie Tarbox.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, February 4th in the dining hall following worship.

Chairpersons of all committees and organizations of the congregation as well as officers of the Congregation Council are reminded that

annual reports are due in the church office no later

than January 24th. Thank you!

Every sip of warm and healthy soup is a divine experience during cold winter days. Come join us on **Saturday, January 20th at noon** in the dining hall for the first “Soup Swap.” All that is required is for each participant to bring their favorite pot of soup to share with others. Most recipes make 8 servings (2 quarts). Please RSVP to me no later than Monday, January 15th at 1-630-968-5204 so I can provide enough bowls, spoons, bread, crackers, coffee, tea and dessert for all. This is not limited only to church members. Please invite your friends. If you have any questions, feel free to see me on Sunday or contact me at the above number. Looking forward to some delicious sampling of soups and great conversations.

—Shirley Kostelny

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968

Monday, January 15th

An American prophet of justice among races and nations, King was an eloquent preacher, a leader of the nonviolent resistance to race-segregated society, and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Born on this date, he was assassinated on April 4, 1968.

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356

Wednesday, January 17th

One of the earliest of the Egyptian desert fathers, Antony gave away his sizeable inheritance and became a hermit. Later he became leader of a group of monks who devoted themselves to prayer, worship, and labor.

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346

Wednesday, January 17th

Born in Egypt, Pachomius became a Christian while a soldier. He became a hermit (a solitary monk) and organized others into a religious community. His rule for monasteries influenced later ones in both the Eastern and Western churches.

Confession of Peter

Thursday, January 18th

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgment of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Friday, January 19th

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering January 7th, 2024

<i>Weekly Budgeted Offering for 2022:</i>	\$2,524.00
<i>Offering Received for the Above Categories:</i>	\$1,125.00
<i>Shortage:</i>	\$1,399.00